

Message Text

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12

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 SPC-03 DRC-01 /125 W

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R 272308Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3249

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, UN, RQ

SUBJ: COMMITTEE OF 24 PUERTO RICO

REF: USUN 1005

1. USUN HAS RECEIVED FROM SECRETARIAT SOURCE COPY OF MARCH 20 LETTER TO COMMITTEE OF 24 FROM PR INDEPENDENCE PARTY PRESIDENT BERRIOS AND SOCIALIST PARTY (PSP) SEC-GEN MARI BRAS REQUESTING, "AS RECOGNIZED PETITIONERS" TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE", A HEARING BEFORE COMMITTEE NEXT WEEK IN ORDER TO "DENOUNCE EMERGENCY SITUATION" CREATED BY RECENT ATTACK ON SAN JUAN OFFICES OF PSP NEWSPAPER CLARIDAD. LETTER CHARGES THAT ON MARCH 16 "ARMED GANG OF CIA AGENTS" ATTEMPTED TO DESTROY OFFICES, TO PLANT EXPLOSIVES IN CLARIDAD PRINT SHOP AND KILLED PSP MEMBERS. LETTER ALSO CHARGES THAT PUERTO RICAN GOVERNOR HAS PROPOSED LEGISLATION AIMED AT SUPPRESSING PUERTO RICAN HUMAN RIGHTS.

2. COMMITTEE OF 24 BUREAU MET AFTERNOON MARCH 27 TO CONSIDER "COMMUNICATION" FROM PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENTISTAS. SEVERAL MEMBERS POINTED OUT THAT SINCE PUERTO RICO NOT YET ON COMMITTEE'S LIST OF NON SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES, PR INDEPENDENTISTAS COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED PETITIONERS UNDER COMITE'S RULES. COMITE RAPPOREUR ARTEAGA (VENEZUELA) OPPOSED GRANTING THEM HEARING AT THIS TIME ON GROUNDS

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IT WOULD COMPLICATE HIS EFFORTS TO PREPARE STUDY

ON PR BY WORSENING COMITE'S RELATIONSHIP WITH US.
A BUREAU DECIDED TO CONSULT WITH OTHER COMITE MEMBERS
AND TO MEET AGAIN ON ISSUE MARCH 29

3. MISOFF INFORMED PUERTO RICAN COMMONWEALTH OFFICE,
WASHINGTON OF ABOVE AND ASKED FOR ANY STATEMENT ISSUED
BYGOV HERNANDEZ-COLON AS WELL AS INFO ON PROGRESS
OF POLICE INVESTIGATION. WE CONSIDERING PASSING THIS
INFO TO PRESS HERE IF INDEPENDENTISTAS ARE HEARD BUT
WILL OTHERWISE REFRAIN FROM PUBLICIZING INCIDENT HERE.
BENNETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, EXPLOSIVES, LAW
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974USUNN01023
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740067-0338
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974039/aaaaaivd.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USUN 1005
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <30 JUL 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMITTEE OF 24 PUERTO RICO
TAGS: PFOR, RQ, UN, CIA, (BERRIOS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005